

TIMELINE

The history of the most important plastics

P = Production, I = Invention

1839
Rubber
Charles Goodyear (P)

1869
Celluloid
John Wesley Hyatt (P)

1884
Artificial silk
Hilaire Bernigaud
de Grange, Count of
Chardonnet (P)

1892
Rayon/viscose
Charles Cross,
Edward Bevan,
Clayton Beadle (P)

1908
Cellophane
Jacques E.
Brandenberger (P)

1907
Bakelite
Leo Baekeland (I)

1910
Synthetic rubber
Fritz Hofmann (I)

1912
**Polyvinyl
chloride (PVC)**
Fritz Klatte (I)

1931
Polystyrene
IG Farben (I)

1935
**High-density
polyethylene, HDPE**
ICI UK (P)

1937
Polyurethane
Otto Bayer (I)

1938
Teflon
Roy J. Plunkett,
Rack Rebok (I)

1946
**Acrylonitrile
butadiene
styrene**
US Rubber
Company (P)

1949
**Expanded
polystyrene**
Fritz Stastny (P)

1953
**Poly-
carbonate**
Hermann
Schnell (I)

1954
Polyacrylonitrile
Bayer (P)

1954
Polypropylene
Giulio Natta (I)

1952
**Low-density
polyethylene,
LDPE**
Karl Ziegler (I)

1938
Perlon
Paul Schlack (I)

1935
Melamine
BASF (P)

1830 1840 1850 1860 1870 1880 1890 1900 1910 1920 1930 1935 1940 1945 1950 1955